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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Fifteenth session,
Geneva, 29 June-10 July 1998,
agenda item 6 (a))

EXPLOSIVES (CLASS 1)

Proposal to amend annex I to the report of the Working Group on the 6(c) test

Transmitted by the Expert from the Netherlands

During the meeting of the Working Group on the 6(c) test, text changes were agreed for the Manual of Tests and Criteria, particularly for including all criteria for classification as 1.4S. One unanticipated effect of this decision was that it was not agreed to include the corresponding complementary criteria in the paragraph dealing with 1.4, other than Compatibility Group S, classification. This only appeared at the reading of the report on the last day of the meeting and it was felt not appropriate to change this in such a late stage of the meeting, particularly since it would mean that most of the experts would not have the chance to read the final text.

On the other hand, this situation leads to a non-logical structure of section 16.6.1.4 of the Manual. Furthermore, the current text in the Working Group report may cause confusion because ofthe way it is written: "..... if none of the following..... occurs.....". This is contrary to the wording for the other Divisions: "..... but any one of the following events occurs." The expert of the Netherlands proposes to correct this non-logical structure along the following lines:

Include in paragraph 16.6.1.4.5 the criteria above which classification into Division 1.4, Compatibility Group other than S is necessary, in it will then suffice in paragraph 16.6.1.4.6 to state that if none of the events occur which would require the product to be assigned to Division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 or 1.4 other than Compatibility Group S, then the product can be assigned to Division 1.4 Compatibility Group S.

Proposal

Change the paragraphs 16.6.1.4.5 and 16.6.1.4.6 of Annex 1 to the report of the Working Group according to the following text. The text of two other Netherlands proposals (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/1998/70 and -/1998/71) is tentatively included between ***[square brackets in bold, italic font]***. For reasons of simplicity, the strike through part of the report is not included.

16.6.1.4.5 If none of the events occur which would require the product to be assigned to Division 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3, but any one of the following events occur:

a fireball or jet of flame which extends more than 1 m from the flames of the fire,;

fiery projections emanating from the product are thrown more than 5 m from the edge of the packages or unpackaged articles;

indentations in the witness screen of more than [*4* mm];

[more than 10 [metallic] fragments with a kinetic energy exceeding 8 J as assessed by the distance - mass relation given in Figure 16.6.1.1];

a burning time of the product measured to be less than 330 seconds for 100 kg net explosive weight (see 16.6.1.4.8: Notes for scaling time measurements in evaluating thermal flux effects)

then the product is assigned to Division 1.4 and to a compatibility group other than Compatibility Group S.

16.6.1.4.6 If none of the events occur which would require the product to be assigned to Division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 or 1.4 other than Compatibility Group S, then the product is assigned to Division 1.4 Compatibility Group S.